

(Start Belt #1)

SPEAKER: Please indicate your presence. Clerk will record.

CLERK: Quorum present, Mr. President.

SPEAKER: We are convened. Any corrections for the Journal?

CLERK: None.

SPEAKER: Any petitions or memorials.

CLERK: Read communication from the Governor. Read E & R report.

SPEAKER: We are ready to go to Select File. There is no Final Reading today so we are ready to go to Select File.

CLERK: Read LB1053.

SPEAKER: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Mr. President, I move for the adoption of the amendment. Now the amendment as it has been amended it is taken out of there the effort in order to appropriate out of the highway funds any money for the highway patrol. It also is certain, or makes it certain that the money that is there is not used will remain in the trust fund. All it does in my judgment and all that I want to do is to say that this body is on record to want to do one of two things. You either want to spend the highway funds to build roads and pay 100% of them that could qualify for federal funds. Or you will say we don't want to do that, we want to build the fund up to a point when the federal funds are available which would mean anywhere from 70-90%. I think that we ought to adopt the policy and whenever or whatever we do is certainly alright with me. I am opposed personally as a state senator to the highway department taking the highway funds and building roads and paying 100% of the state funds that are forced to require to meet the federal specifications. That is all that I have to say Mr. President.

SPEAKER: Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: I am opposed to this. The reason that I am is that I have checked with the highway department. The reason that they raised the taxes on auto and gas tax was that they know there will never be enough federal funds to build all of the roads. They built this fund up. There are twenty-one million dollars now available and it should be used to build roads. That is what it was originally designed for. We have not lost any federal money as far as the federal money is concerned for matching purposes. To hold this money in advance would mean that there would be twenty-one million dollars of roads that could not be built. The money was designed for that, to build roads and we have to use the money as far as I am concerned to build roads. I am completely opposed to this motion. Just because we have the twenty-one million dollars, does not mean that they are going to put the money away. If you talk about building roads with state money only, you are going to have to do it sometimes, because there is not enough federal money available to build roads. I also ask about the sixty-nine million dollars